

## REMARKS

The Office Action of August 14, 2007 has been reviewed and its contents carefully noted. Reconsideration of this case, as amended, is earnestly requested. Claims 1-4 were cancelled previously. Claims 5-11 are pending in the application, claims 5-11 being amended by this amendment. More particularly, claims 6-11 are amended to correct the claim dependencies, claims 5-6 are further amended in accordance with the certified translation of record in the application, and claim 8 is amended to correct an obvious typographical error. The amendment of the claims is supported by the certified translation, the original claims and throughout the application; no new matter has been added.

### Rejections Under 35 USC § 112

Claims 6-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. More particularly, claims 6-9 and 11 stand rejected as being dependent upon a cancelled claim, and claim 10 stands rejected as lacking an antecedent basis for the limitation "said access plate".

It is respectfully submitted that the rejections are overcome by the present amendment of the claims. More particularly, claims 6-11 are hereby amended to correct the claim dependencies, and claim 10 now has the proper antecedent basis. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the indefiniteness rejection of claims 6-11 are therefore respectfully requested.

### Rejection Under 35 USC § 102

Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Nisley (3,470,901). More particularly, the Examiner maintains that Nisley discloses a case (74) that has a built-in flexible hose (32) connecting a soft tube (22) with a water outlet (34) and a valve plate (36). Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejection.

Applicant's independent claim 5, as amended, recites a wall-concealed water service box, comprising a case that has a **built-in** flexible hose connecting a soft tube with a water tap and a valve plate. Referring to Figures 1 and 2, the water service box (1) comprises a case (2) having a built-in flexible hose (9) connecting a soft tube (34) with a water tap (33) and a valve plate (12). Specification at paragraph [0018], Figs. 1 and 2. The soft tube (34) is a hot or cold water pipe

guided from the outside. Specification at paragraph [0032]. It may be verified in the figures that the water service box (1) comprises a case (2) that has a built-in flexible hose (9) and a valve plate (12) that opens and closes. Specification at paragraph [0020], Figs. 1 and 2. That is, valve plate (12) is a means to close or open the case (2). Specification at paragraph [0024]. The invention thus provides a unified, wall-concealed water service box, having an integrated flexible hose for connecting soft hot and/or cold water pipes and the water tap, so as to allow the service box to be opened and closed, without disturbing the pipe connections, thereby unifying, rather than merely housing the connections. Further, with its built-in tubing, the water service box of the invention can be easily assembled and disassembled, and its internal situation can be checked directly by placing a hand through its maintenance hole, so that it will be easy to determine the situation, to retrofit and maintain, and be effective to finish the work neatly with an access plate. Specification at paragraph [0016].

Nisley discloses a molded plastic box, or box construction (20) having holes (26) in the relatively thick tube receiving part or extension (28) of the box, however, the box construction of Nisley does not have a built-in hose, or anything built-in for connecting a soft tube with a water tap and valve plate. More particularly, the connective tubes (32) of Nisley are not built-in, *i.e.*, they are not an integral part of a unified field service box. Rather, parts of the box are cut away and one or more main supply tubes (22) are inserted into holes (26) in the relatively thick tube receiving part or extension (28) of the box (20). Thereafter, a metal or plastic fitting (24) is placed in the end of the main tube (26), a seal (30) is slipped over connective tube (32) and telescoped into the fitting (24), and the excess part of the connective tube (32) is eventually slipped into and stored in the interior of the respective main tube (22). Nisley at Col. 3, lines 10-30. Thus, the box of Nisley merely serves as a housing for multiple field-constructed connections. There is no built-in hose included in the box disclosed in the cited reference, and the pipes housed therein cannot be serviced without disturbing their connections. Nor does Nisley disclose a water tap and valve plate, as recited in the instant claims and described in the specification. More particularly, the connecting nipple (34) of Nisley is not a water tap, and the thermostat control box (36) is not a valve plate that can be opened and closed. Finally, the box construction of Nisley is not wall-concealed. Therefore, Nisley does not disclose each and every limitation of Applicant's claim 5.

It is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 5 as being anticipated by Nisley is thus overcome. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the anticipation rejection of claim 5 are therefore respectfully requested.

Dependent claims 6-11, being dependent upon claim 5, should be allowable for the same reasons and for the additional limitations recited therein. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the anticipation rejection of claims 6-11 are therefore respectfully requested.

### **Conclusion**

Applicant believes the claims are patentable over the prior art, and that this case is in condition for allowance of all claims therein. Such action is thus respectfully requested. If the Examiner disagrees, or believes for any other reason that direct contact with Applicant's attorney would advance the prosecution of the case to finality, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

"Recognizing that Internet communications are not secured, I hereby authorize the PTO to communicate with me concerning any subject matter of this application by electronic mail. I understand that a copy of these communications will be made of record in the application file."

Respectfully submitted,  
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